

*For Immediate Release*

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## **SEN. GREGG: USE MEDICARE SAVINGS TO SAVE MEDICARE**

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today issued the following statement regarding his amendment to ensure that any Medicare savings achieved under the Democratic health care bills would go toward reducing the unfunded liability of Medicare and improve the chances Medicare can meet seniors’ health needs in the future. Senator Gregg filed this amendment to so-called “jobs” legislation currently being debated on the Senate floor.

Senator Gregg stated, “The Administration and the Democratic Leadership have made it clear that they intend to pass sweeping health care bills this year using any means possible, including the highly unpopular approach of reconciliation. Regardless of how these bills become law, it is critical that we make sure that Medicare dollars, which may be cut under the Democrats’ plans in order to pay for a massive new entitlement, are used solely for providing seniors the benefits they deserve and shoring up the Medicare system for future generations. We know that as the program stands today, Medicare has an unfunded liability of \$38 trillion and will be unable to pay out full benefits beginning in 2016. If President Obama and Congress make cuts to this program, let’s at least ensure that any Medicare savings are used to save Medicare.”

Specifically, the Gregg amendment would prohibit the executive branch from implementing the provisions in the Democratic health bills that increase federal spending or reduce revenues until both the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Actuary certify that all projected increases in spending or reductions in revenue under the legislation would be fully offset by projected savings – not counting savings from Medicare.

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